

## Mapping report on key stakeholders and processes relevant for enabling environment to CSOs

Updated on: 10.05.2023

### Notes:

- The matrix maps only key pending processes related to reforms in laws related to CSO development or adoption of new laws relevant for CSOs
- The majority of processes were initiated in the scope of the Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs
- The data in the matrix is subject to a continuous update

Process	Source document	Objective/s – Relevance for CSOs’ enabling environment	Status of implementation
<b>Strategic documents</b>			
Monitoring the implementation of the Strategy and Action plan 2022-2024	Strategy of the Government for cooperation with Civil society and Action plan 2022-2024	To further improve and foster the environment in which the civil society functions and building a continuous, transparent and inclusive dialogue with CSOs	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>The Strategy and the Action Plan 2022-2024 have been adopted at the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Government, held on 28.12.2021.</p> <p>During 14-16 March, the consultations with the CSOs on the Draft Report on the Implementation of the Government's Strategy for Cooperation with and Development of Civil Society 2022-2024 were held in Gostivar, Skopje and Shtip respectively.</p> <p>The Report was then submitted to the</p>



			<p>Government for approval.</p> <p>As per the decision to boycott the work of the Council for cooperation between the Government and the CSS reached on the meeting held on 06.04.2022, until the securing of funds in the Budget of the Government of Republic of North Macedonia for the Draft-program for financing associations and foundations in 2022, its work is suspended.</p> <p>However, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October, the Council held an extraordinary session at which they proposed a meeting to the prime minister, the Minister for political system and relations with communities, the vice Prime minister for EU integrations, the Minister for Finance, and the General secretary.</p> <p>No response has been received by the Council yet.</p>
Drafting of the model for state funding of CSOs	<a href="#">Program of work of the Government (2020 – 2024)</a>	Comprehensive reform of the current system for state funding to CSOs in accordance with best international standards	<p><b>Completed</b></p> <p>At their last meeting held on 14.11.2022, the WG has closed two draft titles for the new Law on Associations and Foundations:</p>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The part regulating the State financing</li> <li>- The part regulating the Fund for support and cooperation with CSOs</li> </ul>
Adoption of the Action Plan for the Open Government Partnership process for the period 2021 - 2023	<a href="#">OGP</a>	Pledge 1.5 Ensuring free of charge access to data about CSOs	<p><b>Completed</b></p> <p>The <a href="#">OGP plan for 2021 – 2023</a> was open for public consultation until July 2021.</p> <p>On 26.10.2021, the Government has adopted the plan.</p> <p>MISA Minister has reached a Decision for forming an all-stakeholder WG for the implementation of the NAP.</p> <p>The WG is composed of coordinators and members of the sub-groups – one for each pledge of the Plan.</p> <p>On March 30<sup>th</sup> the Government made an Amendment to the decision for establishing a Council for coordination and monitoring of the OGP process 2021-2023 – Ivona Stalevska from FOSM was replaced by Marijana Janchevska - Metamorphosis and Marija Mirchevska from FOSM was replaced by Vesna</p>



			Radinovska – Metamorphosis.
Amendment of the Law on Associations and Foundations	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs 2022-2024 (Operational goal 1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improvement of the model of proclaiming organizations and/or projects of public interest</li> <li>2. Legal recognition of informal groups</li> <li>3. Redefinition of the principle of non-partisanship</li> <li>4. Regulation of conditions and procedure for state fund allocation including monitoring</li> <li>5. Securing independence of CSO</li> <li>6. Establishment of legal framework for public-civil partnership</li> </ol>	<p><b>In process</b></p> <p>The Working Group has been established and started working.</p> <p>On 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of December, four thematic roundtables were conducted with relevant stakeholders, tackling the following issues: Legal recognition of other forms of association; Public benefit status and activities; Protection of non-profit character and Supportive environment for CSOs. A report has been drafted from the findings and has been sent to the MJ for further directions on the upcoming activities.</p> <p>After that, no new session had been scheduled and the WG is waiting for the Ministry of Justice to schedule it.</p>
Amendment of the Law on Donations and Sponsorships	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs 2022-2024 (Op. goal 23)	Creating favourable environment for financing of CSOs activities <i>via</i> private donations	<p><b>In process</b></p> <p>The Working Group has been established and started working.</p> <p>On 03.05 the working group had a meeting to go through the draft text of the law. At the moment, the law is being harmonized with the Public Revenue Office, and it is expected that the WG will have their next meeting around</p>



			the end of May.
Amendment of the Law on games of chance and entertainment games	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs  (Op. goal 8)	Increased areas of CSOs activities that may be supported by income generated by the games of chance.	<b>Stand by</b>  The Council requested from the MF and MLSP to consider the conclusions from the public debate on the law.  The process regarding the CSOs has been stalled since then – the Law was subject to discussion only due to the proposal of dislocating gambling companies at least 500 meters from schools.
Reforming the tax treatment of CSOs	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs  (Op. goal 5)	Selection of most appropriate tax regime for CSOs	<b>Stand by</b>  The amendments of the laws on corporate taxes and personal income tax from 2018 significantly improved the tax treatment of CSO. However, the planned reforms to the VAT exemption were not completed.



<p>An improved legislative &amp; regulatory framework on accounting for non-profits</p>	<p>Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs (Op. goal 7)</p>	<p>To address the inconsistent methodology as well as the problems with reporting income from economic activities and the inadequate chart of accounts</p>	<p><b>Stand by</b></p> <p><a href="#">Analysis of the Law on accounting for non-profit organizations (2019)</a></p>
<p>Adoption of a methodology for assessment of the inherent and residual risk for CSOs from money laundering and financing terrorism.</p>	<p>Initiative by the CSO Konekt and the European Center for Non-Profit Law.</p>	<p>To develop a methodology for assessment of the inherent and residual risk for CSOs from money laundering and financing terrorism. The methodology should be used by the banks and other financial institutions when working for CSOs.</p> <p>It aims to facilitate the access of CSOs to financial services.</p>	<p><b>Completed</b></p> <p>In a consultative and participative process, facilitated by Konekt, the working group addressed the methodology to ensure that CSOs would not be considered as high-risk clients by the banks and with that subject to a more thorough scrutiny and higher fees.</p> <p>The process is completed.</p>
<p>Amending the Law on Employment Relations</p>	<p>Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs 2018-2020 (Meas. 8)</p>	<p>Recognition of the specifics of CSOs as employers in the labour legislation</p>	<p><b>In process</b></p> <p>After the public debates during February and March 2023 the work seems to be stalled and the law still hasn't been publicly shared on ENER.</p>



Amending the Law on Volunteering	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs  (Op. goal 21)	Legal regulation of the process of volunteering, grounds for methodology for collecting data regarding the number of organizations and volunteers engaged in the organizations and another relevant data.	<b>In process</b>  MLSP has revoked the Law from the Governmental procedure around the end of 2022.
Legal regulation of the procedure for development of laws and acts of the local government.	Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs 2018-2020 (Meas.17)	Legal regulation of the procedure for development of laws and acts of the local government.	<b>Stand by</b>
Drafting of Law on Social Entrepreneurship	Action plan for implementation of the Strategy for development of social enterprises (Strategic goal 1)  Government Strategy for cooperation with CSOs 2022-2024 (Op. goal 18)	Promotion of social entrepreneurship	<b>In process</b>  The working group has proposed a draft law and is prepared to start consultations.

